

THE TYPE LOCALITY OF *TRIODOPSIS CRAGINI* CALL
(PULMONATA: POLYGYRIDAE)

ERNEST J. ROSCOE
University of Utah
and
LOTTIE O. ROSCOE

The geographic designations of many of the type localities of mollusks described from the United States prior to the early part of the 20th century are rather indefinite. During this period an author would not infrequently designate an entire state or even a group of states as the type locality. The collector of the present day is fortunate in having at his disposal accurate, detailed yet inexpensive maps for over 50 per cent of the area of the United States—the U. S. Geological Survey topographic sheets. The use of these maps or of numerous other types available from both Federal and State agencies affords little excuse for poorly located type localities at the present time.

In some instances, however, what seemingly appears to be a fairly precisely designated locality proves on further examination to be somewhat difficult to subsequently relocate. Such a case is the subject of the present paper.

Triodopsis cragini Call (1886) was described from specimens collected by F. W. Cragin along the "Banks of Chetopa Creek, Neosho County, Kansas." This stream is not named either on the Kansas State Highway Commission map of Neosho County (1940 edition) nor on the USGS topographic sheet of the area (Parson quadrangle, 1884). The accompanying map (Fig. 1), reproduced here for the benefit of those desiring to collect topotypic material, is based on one prepared by the Kansas Geological Survey (Schoewe, 1944).

In an effort to more precisely relocate the type locality of *T. cragini*, the Thayer area was visited briefly by Robert W. Reese, Glenn R. Webb and the senior author in the fall of 1950. Specimens were obtained from the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 36, T. 29 S, R. 17 E. (specimens in KU Coll.). Webb (unpublished field notes) obtained additional specimens in July 1951 from "sec. 31, about $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ mi. SSW from Thayer" (Webb Coll.), and from "sec. 12 and 7, R. 18 E, T. 30 S" (KU Coll.). This latter citation is apparently a *lapsus calami* for sec. 7, T. 30 S, R. 18 E, and sec. 12, T. 30 S, R. 17 E.

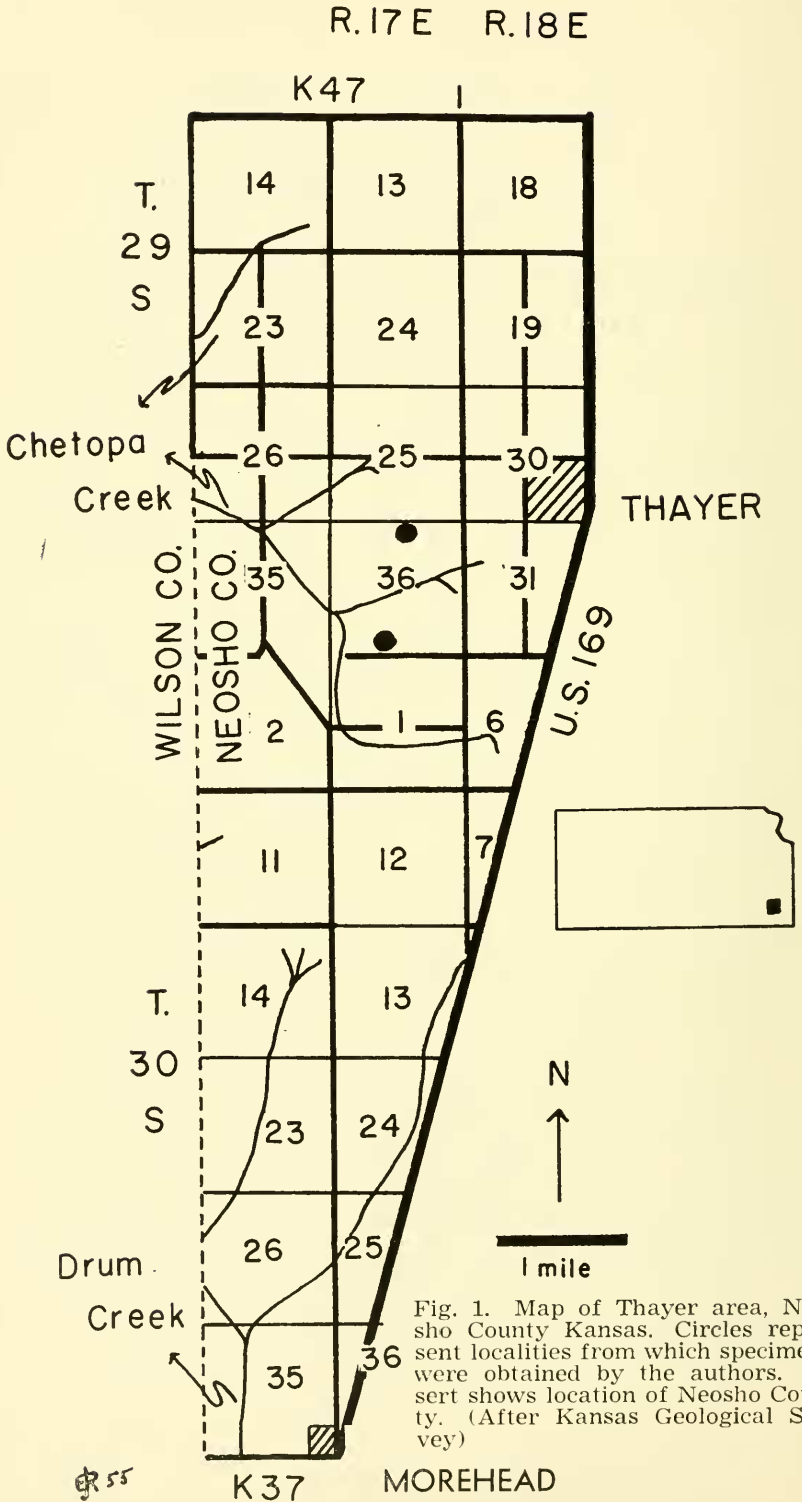


Fig. 1. Map of Thayer area, Neosho County Kansas. Circles represent localities from which specimens were obtained by the authors. Insert shows location of Neosho County. (After Kansas Geological Survey)

An extensive search by the present writers along Chetopa Creek in both Wilson and Neosho Counties in September 1952 resulted in obtaining specimens from only one locality, *viz.*, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, sec. 36, T. 29 S, R. 17 E (KU Coll.).

On the basis of available information no restriction of the type locality can be made at this time. We believe, however, that it lies somewhere within sections 25, 30, 31 and 36 of T. 29 S, R. 18 E.

In the Thayer area *T. cragini* appears to favor upland situations, being found under stones and around rock ledges. In the areas investigated by us, and from which these snails were obtained, the soil is quite sandy and the upland vegetation is primarily oak. It would appear that *T. cragini* is better adapted to the less humid environments than most of the other mid-western members of the Polygyridae.

REFERENCES

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- Schoewe, Walter H. 1944. Coal resources of the Kansas City group. Thayer bed in eastern Kansas. State Geol. Surv., Bull. 52, pt. 3, pp. 81-136 (map, Fig. 6).